



# Committee on Homeland Security

**Democrats**

**Bennie G. Thompson, Ranking  
Member**

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## **CONGRESSMAN THOMPSON: THREE AND ONE-HALF YEARS IS TOO LONG FOR AMERICA TO WAIT FOR ANTHRAX VACCINES**

**May 9, 2005**, Washington, DC-- Congressman Bennie G. Thompson (D-MS), Ranking Member on the House Committee on Homeland Security sent the attached letters to the Department of Homeland Security and the Department of Health and Human Services today to question the reasoning behind the shortage of anthrax vaccines in America's Strategic National Stockpile (SNS). Congressman Thompson stated:

**"It is alarming to learn that during the three and one-half years since the 2001 anthrax letter attacks, not a single anthrax vaccine dose was added to the SNS until a contract was signed last Friday. An anthrax attack is a real risk, and we must take practical steps to prepare for it. I want to know why it has taken so long to prepare the SNS. In the event of another domestic terror attack, America must be fully ready to defend herself and her citizens."**

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